OutdoorIndustry.org

August 2, 2012

Outside Names Osprey as One of America's Best Places to Work in 2012

Monthly Traffic: 6,062

URL: http://tinyurl.com/9q9cy88

Osprey Packs Inc, a leader in creating top quality, high-performance, innovative packs to comfortably and efficiently carry gear, today was named to Outside Magazine's fifth annual "Best Places to Work" list. Osprey was ranked No. 76 out of 100 selected companies. Profiles of the top-ten-performing small, medium, and large companies will be published in the September issue of Outside magazine, available on newsstands August 14, 2012. The full list of 100 will be available August 2 at outsideonline.com.

Outside's "Best Places to Work" project celebrates the innovative companies setting a new standard for a healthy work-life balance. The list was compiled with the help of the Outdoor Industry Association and Best Companies Group. The yearlong selection process began with an outreach effort that identified a wide range of non-profit and for-profit organizations with at least 15 employees working in an office in the United States. Participating companies were sent confidential employee-satisfaction surveys and employer-questionnaires to collect information about benefits, compensation, policies, job satisfaction, environmental initiatives, and community outreach programs. The experts at the Best Companies Group then analyzed the results and selected the companies that best enable employees to pursue active lifestyles while also supporting their social and environmental contributions. In past years, Outside has highlighted 50 outstanding companies. This year, Best Companies Group determined that there were so many top-quality applicants that the list needed to be expanded. Outside editors agreed, and doubled the size of the list.

"Osprey has been an independently owned and operated company from the get go, and we take pride in doing things differently. We strive to make this work-life balance a priority for our employees and to give back to our community," said Erik Wegner, Osprey director of human resources. "We're so proud to be recognized for these efforts for the fifth year in a row."

"We're thrilled to celebrate all 100 of these forward-thinking companies," says Michael Roberts, senior executive editor of Outside. "They believe success depends on helping their employees live more active and fulfilling lives. The kinds of benefits they're providing—free fitness classes, flexible hours, subsidized healthy meals, lots of time out of the office—result in a more productive and engaged staff."

Called out by Outside in their “Best Places to Work” feature article is Osprey’s environmental commitment including the brand’s corporate office building with extensive green upgrades, like heliotropic skylights and deciduous trees for landscaping that provide cooling shade in the summer and heating sun in the winter. Osprey’s Volunteer Incentive Program was highlighted for allowing each team member paid time off to participate in a wide range of local, state, or national volunteer opportunities. Other aspects of Osprey’s positive workplace culture that stood out for Outside include generous vacation time that builds into sabbaticals at 10, 15 and 20 years, a “Powder Day” in winter, an “Outings Holiday” to participate in an Osprey backcountry trip, weekly fitness flex time and a free cruiser bike after one year.